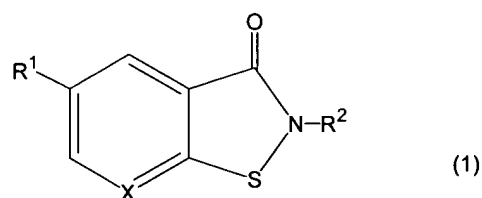


**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Without prejudice or disclaimer, this listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claims 1-8. (Cancelled)

9. (Presently amended) A method of treating gastric mucosa injury caused by urease, which comprises administering to a person in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of an isothiazole compound represented by ~~the general~~ formula (1):



wherein R<sup>1</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or an amino group, R<sup>2</sup> represents a hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl group, or an acetyl group, and X represents a carbon atom or a nitrogen atom, or an adduct salt thereof.

10. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 9, wherein the isothiazole compound is at least one selected from the group consisting of 1,2-benzisothiazol-3(2H)-one, isothiazolo[5,4-b]pyridin-3(2H)-one, 5-amino-1,2-benzisothiazol-3(2H)-one, N-methyl-1,2-benzisothiazol-3(2H)-one and N-acetyl-1,2-benzisothiazol-3(2H)-one.

11. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 9, wherein the gastric mucosa injury comprises chronic gastritis.

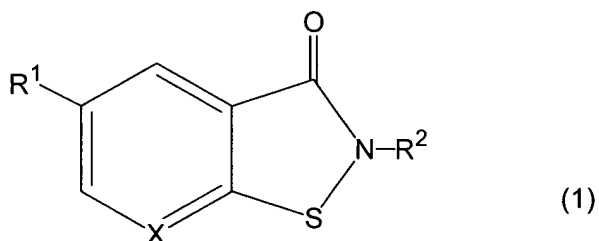
12. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 9, wherein the gastric mucosa injury comprises gastroduodenal ulcer.

13. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 9, comprising administering the isothiazole compound in a daily dose of from about 0.1 to 100 mg/kg.

14. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 9, further comprising administering at least one additional pharmacologically active ingredient chosen from antibiotics, nitronidazole antiprotazoal agents, antiulcer drugs, and proton pump inhibitors.

15. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 9, wherein the urease comprises urease produced by *Helicobacter pylori*.

16. (Presently Amended) A method of treating gastric mucosa injury caused by *Helicobacter pylori*, which comprises administering to a person in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of an isothiazole compound represented by ~~the general~~ formula (1):



wherein R<sup>1</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or an amino group, R<sup>2</sup> represents a hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl group, or an acetyl group, and X represents a carbon atom or a nitrogen atom, or an adduct salt thereof.